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JEFF HARPER/METRO

NEW NEW SCOTLAND YARD

Joel Plaskett's Dartmouth studio adding a café, record store and barber shop
metroNEWS

Not many watching

POLITICS

City councillor is 'shocked' so few tuning in to meetings online



Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Halifax

New statistics call into question how alive and well democracy is in Halifax when it comes to who tunes into live broadcasts of city council meetings.

A set of Google Analytics provided by the city reveals online live streams of 17 regional council meetings held on Tuesdays from January to September garnered an average of 244 unique page views — meaning individual users who accessed the site.

"I'm shocked that it's that poorly viewed," Coun. Matt

Whitman said when informed of the numbers by Metro.

That snapshot represents the amount of people without an internal staff IP address who accessed the site — in other words, the public.

It also excludes the amount of times the stream was viewed in general and does not factor in the numbers of viewers who watched meetings live on Eastlink TV.

Although Whitman believes broadcasting meetings are important for keeping the public record, he said such low viewership makes him wonder if the money to produce the webcasts wouldn't be better spent elsewhere.

"If it's really only 10 or 15 people from my District 13 (watching), I'd rather just go meet with those 10 or 15 people once a week," he said Monday.

"It just seems like a huge expense for such a small return."



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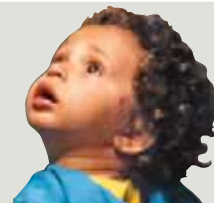
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CONVICTION OVERTURNED

Lawyer allowed to return to practice

Halifax lawyer Lyle Howe, whose sexual assault conviction was recently overturned, is allowed to practise law in the province again.

In a release by the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society (NSBS), the organization confirmed that his suspension was overturned on Monday morning.

There are nearly 40 restrictions on Howe's practice, according to the statement, including that he cannot represent a client charged with sexual assault, and must work in an office with at least two other practising lawyers, one of whom has at least 10 years of experience in criminal defence law.

Howe was suspended in March of 2014 after being found guilty of sexual assault; however, the

Nova Scotia Court of Appeal granted him a new trial on Sept. 3 of this year.

The appeal of the sexual assault conviction came after Justice Dave Farrar said the trial judge failed to explain the concept of "honest but mistaken belief in consent" to the jury.

METRO



Lyle Howe METRO FILE

ACADIA UNIVERSITY

Student charged with attacking second girl

Heide Pearson
For Metro | Halifax

A 21-year-old Acadia University student charged with sexual assault during the first week of classes is now facing another sexual assault charge.

RCMP spokesman Const. Mark Skinner said police received a complaint on Sept. 10 about a sexual assault that allegedly happened at Acadia in November 2013. Skinner said the investigation determined at

the time a 19-year-old male on campus sexually assaulted an 18-year-old female. The accused, now 21, was arrested, charged and appeared in court on Sept. 11 and again on Monday.

In relation to the first allegation pressed against the now 21-year-old, a university official confirmed both the accused and 20-year-old victim are students at the school.

University spokesman Scott Roberts said in relation to that case, "none of (conditions imposed) prevented the accused... from continuing as a student."



Sources say alleged offender Lance Paul Seward is the bar manager at downtown Halifax bar the Bitter End. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Man still on job after sexual assault charges

COURT

Allegations include threats, attempting to choke, strangle



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

A man charged with aggravated sexual assault against a woman remains on the job at a downtown Halifax bar, Metro has learned.

Lance Paul Seward was charged with four counts each of attempting to choke, suffocate or strangle another person; aggravated sexual assault; and sexual assault with a weapon, threats to a third party or bodily harm.

The offences are alleged to have happened between Jan. 1, 2013 and Feb. 28, 2015.

Seward appeared in court to face those charges on Sept. 2, and was released.

A man who answered the phone at the Bitter End on Argyle Street identified himself as Mike — and then as the owner — and told Metro that Seward

is an employee there.

"I'm not aware of any allegations and certainly nothing that I'm going to talk to you on the phone about," he said Monday, before ending the conversation and denying a request for an in-person interview.

Sources say Seward is the bar manager at the Bitter End.

Court documents obtained by Metro show a Michael Leigh who lives on Forest Hill Drive in Halifax put up a \$1,000 surety to secure Seward's release after he was charged.

The Nova Scotia Joint Stock Registry shows a Michael Leigh,

who lives on Forest Hill Drive in Halifax, is the recognized agent of the Bitter End.

Seward was released on the conditions that he keep the peace, appear in court as directed, notify the court of any changes in residence, not have any firearms and not contact or be within 100 metres of the victim.

+ BACKGROUND

Lance Paul Seward is due back in court on Oct. 7 at 9:30 a.m.



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More funds needed for crime analysts: Mounties

POLICE

Computer stats a helpful resource, says regional head



Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Halifax

The officer in charge of Halifax's RCMP believes a lack of resources stands in the way of the force's ability to use computer statistics to curb crime in the municipality.

Chief Supt. Roland Wells pleaded his case before the board of police commissioners on Monday, requesting nearly \$160,000 in funding to hire two more crime analysts to operate the district's computer statistics processing program, known as Comstat, and to assist with Halifax Regional Police's new intelligence crime centre.

"An officer that's trained to go out in the field and conduct investigations is a resource that we want to be sure is used efficiently and efficiently every single day," Wells said. "Crime analysts help us do that."

Currently, he said there is one analyst employed for both Halifax police and RCMP, which he called unsustainable.

Wells highlighted the success of the process that uses spatial intelligence to mine service calls and records for patterns, tracking them onto a map in order to provide real-time data as to when and where a crime is happening.

"A robbery happens and



Crime heat maps indicate in real time when an incident is occurring. The proposed funding would hire new workers to monitor the system. JEFF HARPER/METRO

An officer that's trained to go out in the field and conduct investigations is a resource that we want to be sure is used efficiently.

Halifax Chief Supt. Roland Wells

that (analyst) sees it on the screen then goes online, starts looking at social media for different contacts and clues in that area, and might be able to give officers direction that they wouldn't normally have," Wells said Monday.

Besides building capacity, he said the analysts would al-

low for data to be collected on potential youth who are at risk for committing crimes.

Monday's board supported a motion to bring the funding request forward to regional council in order for a report to come back with more cost information before 2016 budget deliberations.

+ UNDER REVIEW

Councillor mulls \$25 fee for proof of insurance, licence

A \$25 administration fee charged to drivers caught behind the wheel without proof of insurance, a licence or registration left residents on the hook for more than \$90,000 last year.

That fee was discussed during Monday's board of police commissioners meeting, after Coun. Stephen Adams requested a staff report examining it explaining he had recently been contacted by a resident who forgot their insurance card before driving.

According to Adams, the resident said they were instructed to produce the card the next day at the police station for a \$25 processing fee that could be waived, if fought.

"It just didn't sound right," Adams told Monday's board, arguing it's a costly use of resources.

Halifax's police chief Jean-Michel Blais said last year, \$94,150 in fees was collected from 3,766 drivers caught without insurance and 198 others without a licence.

Adams abandoned the issue after a commissioner clarified the fee is not waived, as much as those who take the matter to court will likely have the charge against them withdrawn as the law required drivers to have proof of insurance, not the actual card with them. METRO

RCMP

District chief steps down

Halifax's RCMP will be searching for a new leader, as their current boss is headed out the door.

Officer in Charge Chief Supt. Roland Wells of Halifax District RCMP announced his two weeks' notice during the city's board of police commissioners meeting on Monday.

After 2-1/2 years on the job and 26 with the RCMP, Wells said he plans to take a new job as a civilian with a company out of province.

Working with an integrated police service with Halifax Regional Police has been a challenge and one of the "most rewarding postings of my life," Wells said afterwards.

When asked about his accomplishments, Wells said that under his eye the municipality's computer statistics process, also known as Comstat was "elevated" to the next level, and expanded to traffic services.

He also launched an intervention model for youth at risk.

Wells said his last day with the RCMP will be Oct. 2.

STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO



Roland Wells JEFF HARPER/METRO

\$160,000

Wells requested \$160,000 in new funding to hire staff for Comstat, a statistics processing program.

2

The motion, which would employ two new analysts, was approved for further study to clearly define budgetary costs.

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Joel Plaskett gives a tour of his new venture in Dartmouth, which will house a café, barbershop, record shop and recording studio under one roof. JEFF HARPER/METRO

A new space that 'fits the scale'

BUSINESS

New Scotland Yard Emporium brings edge to Portland Street



Zane Woodford
Metro|Halifax

Standing on Portland Street in front of what will soon be the New Scotland Yard Emporium, Joel Plaskett has a giddy nervousness about him. The Dartmouth musician walks inside and gestures around the room frantically. The coffee stand will be in

that corner, the records in the middle. And back there in another corner, a hair salon. "It's a risk," he said Monday.

"I'm nervous about it, to be perfectly honest, but I'm excited."

The 800-square-foot space in the front section of the building that also houses Plaskett's recording studio, New Scotland Yard, is starting to take shape.

"Part of this is all selfish stuff that we want to have in close proximity to the studio," Plaskett said of the combination of offerings under one roof.

The idea started when he bought the building a few

years ago to put his recording studio in the back.

Originally, the dream was just a record store — a throwback to the old-school record labels like Sun and Motown, which had storefronts selling their records in front of the studios.

Plaskett reached out to Jimmy Donnelly at Taz Records about expanding to Dartmouth.

Simultaneously, he recog-

nized a desire in Joel Plaskett Emergency bass player Chris (The Elk) Pennell to take his haircutting game to the next level after guest-chairing at Saint Lou's Gentlemen Barber-shop and Salon Genesis.

As those conversations went on, Plaskett started thinking about a coffee shop in the space to complete the trifecta, and talked to Alex Babineau, a barista at Two if by Sea who, along with girl-

friend Cait Holmes, makes baked goods under the name Honey and Butter.

In July, Plaskett's tenant, Uptown Girl Fashion Boutique, told him it would be leaving, so he saw an opportunity to make a dream into reality. The New Scotland Yard Emporium was born.

Elk's Haircutting will offer trims for men and women on one or two chairs in the back, while Plaskett said Taz Records will take up the centre with a "leaner" selection than its Halifax store.

Up front, Honey and Butter café will sell coffee, cakes and confectionary to go.

Eventually, Plaskett said he hopes to incorporate the

+ OPENING DAY

All three facets of the emporium will become an interesting addition to Portland Street in downtown Dartmouth when they officially open on Oct. 10.

front and back of the building by hosting small concerts in his studio.

But the main goal is to make a space that "fits the scale of downtown Dartmouth."

"I feel like Portland Street is in a really interesting place right now," he said.



People will be looking at records and you'll be sitting there getting your haircut, like two feet away.

Joel Plaskett

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PUBLIC GARDENS BLUE HERON HANGIN' IN HALIFAX A great blue heron perched by the lake in the Public Gardens Tuesday. While city sightings of the bird are rare, this particular heron has been hanging out for a few weeks, snacking on some of the fish in the lake. JEFF HARPER/METRO

'He slid right under the bus'

CAPE BRETON

Some evidence in teen death is deemed inadmissible

Portions of a statement that a teen witness gave to police will not be admitted as evidence in the trial of a Cape Breton boy charged with criminal negligence causing the death of an 18-year-old classmate, a provincial court judge ruled Monday.

The 15-year-old defendant, who can't be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, is accused of pushing Christopher Chafe under the wheels of a moving school bus outside Sydney Academy last winter.

Provincial court Judge Peter Ross ruled as inadmissible those portions of the witness's recorded statement that dealt with what he said the accused saw that day, and whether the witness could have been blocking the view of the accused.

Ross said such evidence amounts to speculation about what someone else saw or thought that day, which is typically considered hearsay.

However, Ross did admit as evidence key portions of the teen's statement that dealt with his recollection of what Chafe and the accused said just before the victim fell under the

bus around 2 p.m. on Feb. 11, 2015.

In his police statement, the teen said that just before the accused used two hands to shove Chafe over a snowbank, Chafe was joking around with a group of students on the sidewalk in front of the high school.

"The boys were just hanging around pushing each other in the snowbanks, just for fun," the witness told Const. Mike Somerton during a voluntary interview at the Cape Breton Regional Police station in Sydney only a few hours after the grisly event.

"Chris Chafe, he jokingly said: 'What would happen if you push me in front of the bus?' And no one took it seriously. He (the accused) pushed him a little too hard ... and he slid right under the bus."

The teen told police twice that the accused did not say a word before the push. That, too, was admitted as evidence by the judge.

The recorded statement became a point of contention last week when the witness offered testimony in court

+ AT THE SCENE

Court heard the rear wheels of the bus rolled over Chafe's head and he was pronounced dead at the scene.

that either contradicted or failed to confirm his earlier statement.

When asked in court about what he saw that day, the boy repeatedly said he couldn't recall or he didn't know.

As a result, Ross ruled his statement inadmissible on the grounds that it conflicted with what he was saying in the witness box.

The judge noted that the 10-minute statement, on its own, amounted to hearsay because it was made outside the court and was not tested by cross-examination.

However, defence lawyer Matt MacNeil argued Monday that certain hearsay evidence can be allowed as evidence if it meets certain tests, including whether it is reliable and necessary to the trial.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chris Chafe, he jokingly said: 'What would happen if you pushed me in front of the bus?' (The accused) pushed him a little too hard ... and he slid right under the bus. Witness

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WEATHER SUNNY DAYS AHEAD A cyclist passes a few pedestrians out for a stroll along the Halifax Waterfront on a dreary Monday morning in the city. Environment Canada is calling for sunny skies to return by the middle of the week. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Debates on Sept. 20, 21

 ELECTION 2015

Downtown issues up for discussion Monday night



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Some Halifax federal candidates are set to discuss all things downtown in an upcoming forum.

On Sept. 21, the Halifax Federal Candidates Forum for Downtown will be held at Neptune Theatre from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. as part of a national initiative through Downtowns Canada.

The release said forum topics will include issues including downtown as the employment centre of the region, urban infrastructure and transit investment, support for arts and culture, and housing affordability.

FAITH FORUM

Talk puts the focus on religion and politics

The federal candidates in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour will take part in a Faith and Politics Forum this Sunday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Woodlawn United Church.

Halifax Mayor Mike Savage will make an opening statement and the forum will be moderated by Dan Leger.

Those confirmed for the Halifax riding as of Monday afternoon included Conservative candidate Irvine Carvery, Thomas Trappenburg for the Green Party, Liberal candidate Andy Fillmore and NDP candidate Megan Leslie.

For Dartmouth-Cole Harbour, Green Party candidate Brynn Nheiley, Liberal Darren Fisher and NDP candidate Robert Chisholm will also attend.

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INVESTIGATION

Freightliner theft under probe

Police in Nova Scotia are investigating the theft of a tractor-trailer carrying more than 18,000 kilograms of snow crab in a container sprayed with a dangerous chemical.

Police say the 2007 Freightliner was reported stolen from Nova Truck Centre on Barker Lane in Westville on Sunday.

They say the green truck has

the number 29 on both corners of the hood, a red and black coloured G on both doors and has Glencoe Mills Trucking Ltd. on it.

It has the New Brunswick licence plate number PTW 079.

Its white trailer is 12 metres long, has the letters NYK in blue and the Nova Scotia licence plate PT 58845. THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ PUBLIC ALERT

Police are warning people that the crab was to be shipped to Japan and is in a container laced with a preservative, which is not harmful to crabs but can be lethal if consumed.

DARTMOUTH

Missing woman sought by police

Police are asking for the public's help locating a missing Dartmouth woman.

Halifax Regional Police say Catherine Campbell, 36, was last seen Sept. 10 at 6:30 a.m. in Dartmouth.

She is described as a white woman with a medium build, blond hair and blue eyes.

"There is no evidence to suggest that Catherine has met with foul play but there is concern for her well-being," a police release stated Monday around 5 p.m.

Anyone with information on her whereabouts is asked to contact police at 902-490-5020. METRO



Catherine Campbell
CONTRIBUTED

IN BRIEF

Motorcyclist dies at scene of Cape Forchu collision

A man has died after a collision involving a car and a motorcycle Saturday evening

in Cape Forchu.

At about 7:25 p.m., Yarmouth Rural RCMP, Emergency Health Services and Yarmouth Fire Department

responded to the two-vehicle collision on Highway 304 Cape Forchu. The driver of the motorcycle died at the scene. METRO



POINT PLEASANT PARK HEROES TO THE RESCUE Firefighters pack up their equipment after a man was taken to hospital on Monday with minor injuries to his leg. Halifax Regional Police said they received an assist citizen call from a passerby about someone lying on the rocks at Point Pleasant Park. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Grey Lady to grace haunted stamp set

CANADA POST

One of five eerie illustrations featured in this year's collection

Heide Pearson
For Metro | Halifax

Be prepared for a little scare the next time you open your mailbox, as the Halifax Citadel's hauntingly famous "Grey Lady" could be on your piece of snail mail.

The Grey Lady is featured in

“It's definitely part of our story here ... it's great to get the story out there.”

Hal Thompson

Canada Post's second Haunted Canada stamp collection released on Monday, along with other eerie illustrations from across Canada.

She graces one of the five stamps, flowers in her hands and dressed in a traditional grey gown.

According to Hal Thompson of Parks Canada, the story of the Grey Lady is a true story of a woman who was set to marry a man staying in the barracks at the Citadel, but her groom killed himself the night before the wedding.

The devastated bride, apparently named Cassie Allan, never got over the loss of her love and haunts the barracks to this day searching for him.

Thompson said employees and commissioners have seen her ghost, including one man who was so frightened by the mysterious disappearing woman he was in tears when he told his story.

"This is history and folklore



The famous ghost is said to haunt the barracks at the Parks Canada Citadel.

CONTRIBUTED

linked," said Thompson. "It's definitely part of our story here ... it's great to get the story out there."

Other stamps in this year's collection feature the haunted Caribou Hotel in Carcross, Yukon, the phantom-driven ox cart from Red River Valley in Manitoba, and murderer Marie-Joseph Corriveau of Levis, Quebec.

STATISTICS

City crime down since last year

Overall crime is down more than seven per cent in Halifax compared to this time last year, according to city police and RCMP.

On Monday, Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District RCMP released the 2015 second quarter crime statistics.

The release said overall crime is down 7.2 per cent


when comparing this year's second quarter (5,218 charges) to the same time frame in 2014 (5,623).

Violent crime is up slightly (less than one per cent) as there was one homicide this year compared to none last year, six attempted murders this year and five last, two more assaults (647 compared to 645), and five more robber-

ies (55 vs. 50).

The stats show property crime is down 14.3 per cent with two fewer thefts of motor vehicles, three fewer thefts under \$5,000 and 383 fewer thefts over \$5,000 (1,549 this year vs. 1,932 last year).

There was also an increase of 23 breaking-and-entering offences with 314 this year compared to 291 in 2014. METRO



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Fiscal good news for Harper

ELECTION 2015

Balanced budget boosts Tory electoral prospects

Hard new numbers about the past performance of the economy gave way to crystal-ball gazing Monday on the campaign trail as the major party leaders all took a shot at forecasting the future.

For Stephen Harper, weeks of buffeting bad news was washed away by a report tallying the final budget bottom line for the last fiscal year: a surprise \$1.9 billion surplus.

The timing of the 2014-15 surplus announcement from Finance Canada — the first after six consecutive budget deficits — couldn't be better for Harper, with the Conservative, NDP and Liberal leaders set to face off later this week in a Calgary election debate on the economy.

The shot of fiscal adrenaline had the prime minister in fine fettle at a Kamloops,



Conservative Leader Stephen Harper speaks to supporters Monday in Kamloops, B.C.

RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C., campaign stop, where he brushed off the mild economic contraction that marked the first half of 2015 and asserted that robust growth and good budgetary times are ahead.

"I see zero to little risk that we will have anything other than a surplus for the second

\$1.9 billion

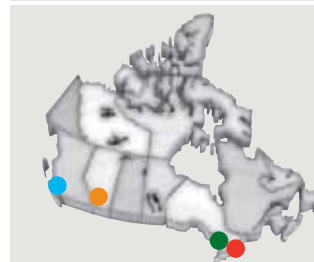
The federal budget surplus for FY2014-2015.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

year in a row, based on the trajectory we are on," said Harper.

Across the country in Toronto, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau was looking at the same numbers and reaching a very different conclusion.

"Mr. Harper has put us in deficit this year. As for last

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE TUESDAY



● **Justin Trudeau** will be in Waterloo, Ont.

● **Tom Mulcair** will be in Calgary and Lethbridge, Alta.

● **Elizabeth May** will be in Guelph, Ont.

Stephen Harper's itinerary was unavailable.

year's numbers, we know and we saw Mr. Harper underspending and making cuts to Veterans Affairs, to Aboriginal Affairs, to seniors in the billions of dollars so that he could balance the books in time for his election."

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair, meanwhile, called the 2014-15 surplus "good news for Canadians and it shows that the NDP's going to be starting off on the right foot by proposing to have a balanced budget, talking to Canadians about what we can accomplish together in health care (and) quality, affordable \$15-a day child care."

Economic forecasts by campaigning party leaders are notoriously self-interested and suspect.

Harper was spectacularly wrong in October 2008 with his election campaign prediction that if Canada was going to suffer a recession, it would have happened by then. He also vowed not to run deficits.

As it turned out, a devastating global economic meltdown was already underway and the Conservatives were already in deficit en route to a \$55.6-billion shortfall in 2009-10 that was the largest in Canadian history. THE CANADIAN PRESS

BID DEADLINE

No Toronto Olympics

Toronto will not be hosting the 2024 Summer Olympics, with Mayor John Tory deciding not to enter the city into the competitive bid process, Torstar News Service has learned.

The mayor's office would not confirm Tory's position ahead of the deadline to submit a formal letter to the International Olympic Committee by 6 p.m. Tuesday, but two sources with knowledge of the decision say after weeks of deliberation the talks of a bid are now over.

Tory was scheduled to make

the announcement in front of city hall Tuesday morning.

The decision was made after Tory received a lack of corporate enthusiasm and no firm support from the province. Key potential sponsors have also been lukewarm to backing a Toronto bid to host the mega sporting event.

Tory has spent the last few weeks consulting and gathering information on the pros and cons of mounting a bid, which he has said should be "largely financed by the private sector."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Indonesia fights accused Canadian teacher's release

Prosecutors in Indonesia have filed an appeal of a court decision which cleared a Canadian teacher of child sexual offences in the country, the man's family said Monday.

Neil Bantleman had been serving a 10-year prison sentence when the August ruling resulted in his release, although he remained under a travel ban.

His brother said the

latest step in the 45-year-old's legal battle means Bantleman isn't allowed to return to Canada.

Bantleman, who is from Burlington, Ont., and an Indonesian teaching assistant, Ferdinand Tjong, were both working at the Jakarta Intercultural School when they were arrested last July.

The arrests followed a complaint from the parents of a six-year-old boy who claimed their son had been sodomized.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ALBERTA

Girl, 2, abducted, father found dead

An Amber Alert has been issued after a young girl was reportedly abducted from her home in a community 200 kilometres southwest of Calgary.

Crowsnest Pass RCMP say Hailey Dunbar-Blanchette, 2, was abducted by an unknown person today at 3:30 a.m. from the town of Blairmore, Alta. The suspect vehicle fled to the west, RCMP say, at a high rate of speed.

RCMP found the body of Terry

Blanchette, 27, in his home. They are investigating it as a murder.

The suspect's vehicle is a newer model white van, with a large rear antenna and attached flag.

Blanchette is white, female, with a small build, light brown, straight hair with bangs and brown eyes.

Anyone with information is asked to call: Crowsnest Pass RCMP 403-562-2866.

METRO CALGARY

DEBATE

Munk debate resists giving equal time for both languages

The Liberal and NDP leaders are reviewing a final Munk Debate proposal before they formally accept the foreign affairs debate, but the language rules may prove to be a sticking point.

Both Justin Trudeau and Tom Mulcair have made their participation in all of the national election debates conditional on having an equal number in French and English.

There will be two debates in each language, so the leaders

say they agreed to the Munk Debate on the understanding it would be bilingual.

But the Munk Debates never committed to hosting a bilingual debate, said moderator and chair of the Munk Debates, Rudyard Griffiths. The NDP accepted the invitation to participate in an English-only debate then later asked that it be bilingual, he said.

Then the Liberals also expressed concern about the level of French content, Griffiths

said. The final proposal for the Sept. 28 debate at Toronto's Roy Thomson Hall is to allow each participant to speak in either language with simultaneous translation.

But it's not yet clear if that will meet Mulcair and Trudeau's conditions. The leaders have until noon Tuesday to officially accept the debate invitation.

The Conservatives said Stephen Harper will participate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

INFLUENCE PEDDLING TRIAL

Former Harper aide did it for escort girlfriend: Prosecutor

A former top aide to Prime Minister Stephen Harper was trying to help a girlfriend leave her escort past behind when he got involved in trying to persuade the government to buy water systems from a company that employed her, a court heard Monday.

Bruce Carson has pleaded not guilty to a charge of influence peddling in a trial that Harper's opponents are using to question the prime minister's judgment in making appointments.

The Ottawa court heard that Carson testified he was merely trying to help when he offered to assist an Ottawa-based company, H2O Water Professionals, in getting meetings in 2010 and 2011 with government officials.

But Crown Attorney Jason Nicol told the Ontario Superior Court of Justice Carson wasn't some altruistic figure trying to help H2O Pros clinch a deal to sell water purification equipment to First Nations communities desperate to fix tainted water

problems.

Instead, Nicol said Carson wanted to help his then-fiancee, Michele McPherson, leave her former life as an escort.

"It's all about a pretty girl," Nicol said as he read from the thick binders of evidence presented at Carson's preliminary hearing, which were formally submitted Monday as evidence at his trial.

Carson was a senior adviser to the prime minister from 2006 to 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Border checks up

metr The Syrian Crisis
The flight

A number of countries rush to stem flow of migrants

Migrants at Hungary's crowded border crossings with Austria and Serbia faced fear and uncertainty Monday as several European Union countries beefed up border controls in a precedent that could gut the bloc's cherished principle of free movement among most of its nations.

While Hungarian police patrolled their border fence on horseback and workers uncoiled the razor-wire and steel mesh that would finish it, Austria, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic and Slovakia all rushed to join Germany in tightening border controls.

The efforts created significant pressure points as the

flow of people fleeing violence at home and trekking through the Balkans showed no sign of abating. "Hurry up! They're letting us through!" some shouted in Arabic at a checkpoint near Roszke, Hungary, as police blocked a rail line where thousands had entered the country, funneling the migrants to waiting buses.

Elsewhere, bottlenecks developed at the Austrian border town of Nickelsdorf, where a police spokesman said a main highway had to be closed because up to 10,000 migrants were crossing in from Hungary.

Germany's border checks also caused traffic jams Monday as long as 20 kilometres on highways in Austria.

German police said they will conduct rolling checkpoints on major roads coming from Austria but will not check every vehicle and driver for passports.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



**Hurry up!
They're letting
us through!**

Migrant at a checkpoint
near Roszke, Hungary



A woman and child look at a police officer as they board a bus after they were made to disembark a train in the southern German border town of Passau on Monday.

MARKUS SCHREIBER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MISSISSIPPI

Professor killed on university campus

A professor was killed in his office at Delta State University in Mississippi, and investigators are searching for another school employee in connection with the killing, officials said Monday.

Cleveland Police Chief Charles "Buster" Bingham said authorities have identified Shannon Lamb as a "person of interest" in the shooting of history professor Ethan Schmidt. Lamb is no longer believed to be on the Delta State campus.

Bingham also said police have information suggesting Lamb may have been involved in another slaying in the south Mississippi city of Gautier,

about 580 kilometres away, where a woman was found dead in her home.

The 3,500-student university was put on lockdown amid reports of an active shooter. Everyone on campus was told to take shelter, away from windows.

Freshman Noah Joyner, 18, said he was shaken by the lockdown. Joyner hunkered down in a bathroom of his dorm building and heard others desperate to get in when reports of the active shooter spread.

"There were like people banging on the doors to have somebody let them in," said Joyner, a swimmer at the college. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



IN BRIEF

Bangkok bombing suspect has fled to Turkey: Police

A key suspect in the bombing at a Bangkok shrine that killed 20 people has fled to Turkey, Thai police said, in another indication that the attack could be the work of members of China's ethnic Uighur min-

ority who have sympathizers in Turkey. Investigations revealed the man, carrying a Chinese passport in the name Abudurehman Abudusataer, left Thailand on Aug. 16 for Bangladesh, and police speculated he might have gone to China.

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School a drain on parents

SHOPPING

Tab averages \$3,000 to \$4,500 a year, study suggests

For the Steinfelds, a family of six living in the Toronto area, buying school supplies for their daughter heading into Grade 1 wasn't as simple as shopping for a knapsack and a few pencils.

"Monster High pencils, My Little Pony erasers, Barbie-branded supplies is what she wants," says Daniel Steinfeld, a local consultant and father of four children ages 6, 3, 2 and two months. "As the kids get older, they increasingly want what's 'cool' and we do our best to try to teach them the difference between needs versus wants."

School supplies are just the onset of expenses that drain parents' pockets. Between lunches, clothes, extra-curricular activities and birthday parties, parents are likely to spend between \$3,000 to \$4,500 a year, according to a 2013 Fraser Institute paper.



School supplies are featured at Staples replica dorm room desk setup during a back-to-school media event in Toronto. BRIAN B. BETTENCOURT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

With their two eldest children outgrowing new clothes once or twice a year, wardrobe costs the Steinfelds the most. "With such ever-changing weather in Toronto, the need for several wardrobes per kid makes the cost that much great-

er," adds mother Katie Steinfeld. As children move into middle school and high school, expenses become more cumbersome, with cellphones and data charges added to the mix, says Sarah Widmeyer, managing director and head of Wealth Advisory

Services for Toronto-based CIBC. "There's a 'latte factor' that comes into play once kids start having a cellphone and start buying apps," says Widmeyer. "A few dollars on a cellphone application may not seem like a lot, but it's an attitude that

can quickly grow out of hand if parents don't stay on top of it."

This is why every expense should be an opportunity to involve kids in the financial conversation, adds Widmeyer. "Without solid discussion and learning around budgeting, the differences between needs and wants, children can end up viewing their parents as a personal ATM machine."

And it can go on as children grow older. More than 50 per cent of post-secondary students will end up asking their parents for additional financial support throughout school year because they've run out of money, according to an August poll of 1,000 parents CIBC conducted. Despite this, 86 per cent of parents believe they are good financial role models for their children.

The reality is that it's tough for parents to say no when they can afford to say yes, says Patricia Lovett-Reid, chief financial commentator for CTV News. "It can be difficult to teach your kids financial tough love, especially if it comes out of nowhere."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Auto veteran joins Google

Google is adding a veteran automotive executive, former Hyundai and Ford Motor Co. executive John Krafcik, to run its program focused on developing self-driving cars.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nintendo picks new chief

Nintendo has named a long-serving executive as president following the death in July of Satoru Iwata. It said a board meeting had decided to appoint Tatsumi Kimishima, 65, as president of the video game maker.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

market minute

	DOLLAR 75.43¢ (-0.02¢)
	TSX 13,353.34 (-108.13)
	OIL \$44.00 US (-63¢)
	GOLD \$1,107.70 US (+\$4.40)

NATURAL GAS: \$2.758 US (+6.5¢)
DOW JONES: 16,370.96 (-62.13)

ECONOMY

Tories balance books

The federal government posted a surprise \$1.9-billion surplus in 2014-15 — bringing the country's books back into balance a year earlier than expected.

The Finance Department released year-end figures Monday for a period that was supposed to instead generate a \$2.0-billion shortfall.

The number ends a streak of six deficits under the Conservatives and is certain to reverberate on the campaign trail.

The Finance Department said the \$3.9-billion swing from the expected shortfall to surplus was largely due to higher revenue — from personal and corporate income taxes — that rang in \$3 billion higher than projected as well as positive year-end adjustments.

The report also found expenditures were lower. Program spending was \$800 million lower than forecast, while public debt charges were \$100 million lower than expected.

The Finance Department noted the 2014-15 surplus follows the \$5.2-billion deficit posted by Ottawa in 2013-14.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TECHNOLOGY

Strong demand for new iPhones: Apple

Preorders for its latest iPhone have been so strong that Apple expects to surpass last year's record, when it sold 10 million phones during the first weekend.

Apple began taking preorders for the iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus on Saturday.

The new models, which go on sale Sept. 25, have more memory and faster processors, along with a new 12 mega-pixel camera. The phones have not gone up in price, but last year's record-selling iPhone 6 and 6 Plus models will now sell for \$100 US less.

"As many customers noticed, the online demand for iPhone

6s Plus has been exceptionally strong and exceeded our own forecasts for the preorder period," Apple said. "We are working to catch up as quickly as we can, and we will have iPhone 6s Plus as well as iPhone 6s units available at Apple retail stores when they open next Friday."

The iPhone is still Apple's most important product. Sales of the iconic smartphone contributed more than two-thirds of the company's \$107 billion US in revenue during the first half of 2015.

The newest product from Apple arrives as smartphone sales slow globally, with so many people already carrying them. But researchers at IDC, an industry data provider, say that iPhone sales are growing faster than those of its rival, Android. IDC expects iPhone shipments to grow by 16 per cent this year, while it estimates Android phones will grow only 10 per cent.

Analysts said demand is being boosted partly by China, which is being included in the initial launch for the first time. Piper Jaffray analyst Gene Munster said he expects China to add two million units to the opening weekend.

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The Apple iPhone 6s. COURTESY APPLE

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That's nuts: Thanks to a warm winter and dire drought, some California pistachio farmers are reporting up to 90% 'blanks' — empty shells with no fatty green meat inside.

EMMA TEITEL: ON MILLENNIALS AND MISTAKES

No greater deterrent exists to youth involvement in politics than the current obsession with who said what or did what on the Internet.



Would you pee into a coffee mug? And if that coffee mug belonged to a complete stranger, would you rinse it out in his or her kitchen sink sans dish soap?

Thanks to a federal election rife with bizarre scandal, these questions have been weighing on my mind lately. And I've come to an uncomfortable conclusion.

It's (remotely) possible that I, too, like Jerry Bance, the former Conservative candidate and former contractor caught urinating into a homeowner's coffee mug on CBC's Marketplace in 2012, might urinate one day in the wrong receptacle. Because like Bance and his contemporaries — Canadian political candidates who have erred on camera and online — I am a human being prone to strange stupidity.

Like Ala Buzreba, former Liberal candidate in the riding of Calgary-Nose Hill who recently resigned from her post after it was revealed she made offensive comments on Twitter as a teen, I have written questionable things in a public forum (see this column).

Like Katherine Swampy, an NDP candidate running in Alberta's Battle River-Crowfoot riding, I have posted numerous regrettable photos and statements on Facebook. Swampy is in the hot seat this month for explicit comments she made on Facebook in 2011 and an Instagram photo — also outdated — in which her husband is seen pointing a gun the NDP has since claimed is a toy.

Mind you, unlike former Toronto-Danforth Conservative candidate Tim Dutaud (who, like Bance and Buzreba, has also dropped out of the race) I have never faked an orgasm on YouTube in the name of comedy. But tomorrow is

another day.

It appears this election campaign is inextricably linked to a series of technology-driven scandals. And these scandals are disturbing not because they reveal a gross or grossly immoral streak in the political candidates involved, but because they foretell instant doom for anyone under the age of 30 who would like to get into politics.



CAREER DOWN THE TOILET Like so many with indiscretions preserved online, former Conservative candidate Jerry Bance will forever be known for peeing in a homeowner's cup.

SCREEN GRAB/CBC MARKETPLACE

Millennials — boomerang kids, ingrates, whatever the current term is for people aged 18-33 — are not universally prone to peeing in the wrong places and tweeting obscenities.

But considering that our digital trail was spawned in preadolescence, chances are that at least one of us has done one or more of these things (and worse) at some point, and that these indiscretions have been preserved, like dinosaur DNA, for eternity.

From where I sit, no greater deterrent exists to youth involvement in politics than the current obsession with who

said what or did what on the Internet, especially when you said or did it in a fifth-dimension bizarro world — i.e. high school.

Couldn't a 20-something would-be prime minister purge incriminating material of herself from the Internet? I recently found a video on Facebook, in which I am obviously drunk and attempting to sing a Dubstep remix of a

censored when someone makes a stupid mistake in a public forum — a mistake that injures no one but him or herself (except in the case of Jerry Bance and the homeowner who, let us pray, did not drink out of that mug).

We could hope, of course, that there are so many Internet-driven scandals in the future that they cancel each other out; when everyone's dirty laundry is waving in the air it's imprudent to tell the person next to you he smells bad. But in case they don't, I'd like to propose a new system whereby we judge candidates not by their past mistakes but by the nature of their repentance. Given the opportunity to make things right, do they apologize sincerely and even gracefully, or do they prove to be as clueless and obnoxious as their initial sins indicated?

Are they contrite, or do they double down the same way disgraced Hydro One employee, Shawn Simoes of #FHRITP notoriety did? Chances are, had Simoes apologized immediately after City reporter Shawna Hunt called him out for being a boor, instead of suggesting she was lucky she didn't have a vibrator in her ear, his public shaming would not have been nearly as devastating, nor deserved.

Whether we like to admit it or not, clean slates are extinct. Here's to second chances.

Emma Teitel is a national columnist for the Toronto Star. She has been a front-of-the-book columnist for Maclean's magazine for the past four years, focusing on a wide range of subjects including women's issues and popular culture. She won the National Magazine Awards gold award for columns in 2013.

YOUR RIDE

Lowering urban speed limits should not be a deal-breaker

Erica Butler



Let's say you're crossing the street and, in a stroke of terrible luck, a distracted driver hits you.

According to the World Health Organization, if that driver is going 50 km/h (the legal speed limit in most urban areas) you have an 80 per cent chance of being killed.

Now say that same driver was going only 30 km/h. Your chances of dying drop dramatically, to 10 per cent.

With statistics like these, it's no wonder there's a growing trend toward reducing speed limits on streets where pedestrians and drivers mix the most: urban residential areas.

In 2010, Montreal reduced speed limits on residential streets to 40 km/h. (Main arterials and collectors are still 50 km/h).

Since then, several boroughs have gone even lower for local streets, to 30 km/h.

This year, the province of Ontario started considering setting default speed limits at 40 km/h across the province, and giving its municipalities the authority to go lower if they see fit.

In Nova Scotia, requests for lower speed limits have traditionally been denied by the province. A 2013 report on the topic by Dillon Consulting explains why.

Dillon found "little supporting evidence that posting

a lower speed limit sign will reduce vehicle operating speed," said Michael Croft, an engineer with Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, in an email.

It turns out simply setting a new speed limit does not mean people will slow down. What impacts drivers most is the physical makeup of the street.

I don't quite understand why this is a deal-breaker for lowering speed limits in our urban neighbourhoods.

Sure, speed limits do not work on their own, but who would expect them to? A lower speed limit would almost certainly be part of a larger policy that included public information campaigns and physical adjustments to streets to help slow down drivers where necessary.

The Dillon report also posits that setting lower limits that are ignored will contribute to the general disregard for road rules among drivers. Isn't it more dangerous to have a maximum speed that's too fast, instead of one that's too slow?

Right now, nine streets in Nova Scotia are experimenting with a 40 km/h limit.

The results, due sometime this winter, will help the province determine whether to continue giving people legal licence to drive fast enough to kill you, right in your neighbourhood.

Erica Butler lives in Halifax and uses transit, a car and a bicycle to get around the city. You can follow her on Twitter at @HabitatRadio.

Rosemary Westwood will return.

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HOW VAIN IT IS
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THOREAU



Futuristic fantasy

Flesh-baring designs and technology rule at Chromat, a designer brand with fans like Beyoncé, Taylor Swift and Madonna



ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Models of all sizes strutted at the Chromat show at New York Fashion Week this past weekend, donning the line's signature pieces which include bikinis, dresses, sportswear and structured cages.

"We want to design clothes that a woman can run 10 blocks in. That's always the goal: To make people feel strong and that they can do anything," said designer Becca McCharen, who is also an architect. "It's always been strong, powerful women in every field and every body size, every gender spectrum."

Black, red, blue and white dominated the collection, which also featured pieces that used Intel technology to change the shape of the garment depending on various elements such as the body temperature.

"The collection was inspired by how we can use sportswear to power the body and how we can make the body stronger through clothes," said McCharen.

POWER PLAY

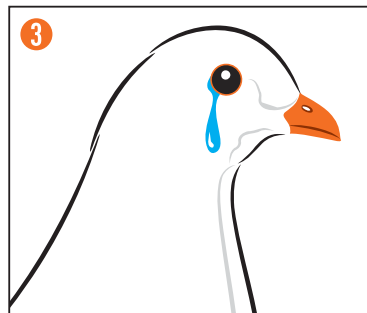
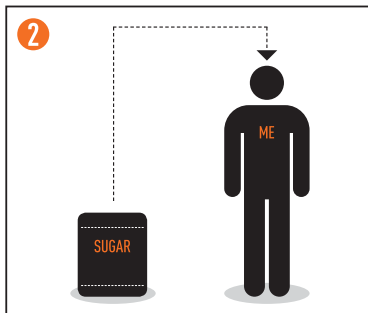
"We want to design clothes that a woman can run 10 blocks in," Chromat designer Becca McCharen said after the show.



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Jason Wu puts his own spin on 1950s feminine

ON THE RUNWAY

Ruffles and fringe feature heavily in designer's show

Ruffles can be flouncy and fanciful, but they can also be understated and sophisticated, as they were for Jason Wu at his New York Fashion Week runway show.

The Taiwanese-Canadian designer — who's famous for producing both of Michelle Obama's inaugural gowns — went for muted colours like forest green, rust, and trusty old black, although he mixed it up with some bright fuchsia and shiny silver, too.

The show had a mid-century feel, inspired by both furniture and photographs of the period.

Wu also favoured fringe, as in his first garment down the runway — an elegant fringed coat in that deep forest green.



Backstage, Wu said he felt "very, very inspired" for this collection — by themes like mid-century furniture and the photographs of John R a w l i n g s, a prominent fashion photographer who worked from the 1930s to the 1960s.

"I wanted to kind of put that forward in a modern way through my (own) lenses," he said.

Wu also noted that it was fun to

be among the earlier shows at Fashion Week, which runs through Sept. 17.

"It's always good to be one of the first to show," he said. "I kind of feel like we kick the season off."

Among Wu's front-row fans on Friday: actress Patina Miller, a Tony winner for Pippin who's also featured in the CBS drama Madam Secretary and in the Mockingjay movies.

"I love that he just thinks of everything, you know?" said Miller, who was wearing a deep blue Wu creation.

"It's relaxed, it's beautiful, but it's always so chic and there's sort of a simple quality to the stuff that's really amazing, that I am drawn to. And I just think he gets it right."

Wu set up his label in 2006 but famously hit the big time when First Lady Michelle Obama wore one of his gowns to the inaugural ball in 2009.

Today his clothes are sold by more than 170 retailers worldwide, and worn by the

THE LOOK

An edgy take on glamour

Sophisticated style is what Jason Wu is all about.

Here are some of the highlights from his show:

- Wu called his collection "glamour" channelling the looks of the 1950s.
- Wu says he wanted a ruffle that wasn't overly "prissy" and paired the feminine look with frayed edges and fringing.
- Ruffles featured at the hems of skirts, on the shoulders and around the throat of his designs.
- Another standout was Wu's sharply tailored summer suiting with fringed micro shorts. AFP



Jason Wu's key colours were dark forest green, dark rust and a little bit of pink. ALL PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

likes of Oscar winners Reese Witherspoon and Julianne Moore, and model Christy Turlington.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mimi Domestic Medium Hair

Five-year-old Mimi is a lovely girl who was well cared for. She is extremely friendly and enthusiastically responds to being brushed and petted with a whispery purr. Mimi generally enjoys being spoiled. Ideally, she should be encouraged to be active and eat well, as some weight loss will be good for her. She is healthy, happy and loving...

and more than ready to settle into her new forever home. If you have room in your home and heart for Mimi, please visit with her today.



For more information on Mimi and other adoptable furry friends, visit www.pas.spcans.ca or contact the Nova Scotia SPCA Provincial Animal Shelter at 902-468-7877 or info@pas.spcans.ca

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GOSSIP BRIEFS

Page brings GF to TIFF

Ellen Page brought a date to the premiere of her new movie *Freeheld* on Sunday night in Toronto, marking the red-carpet debut for the Canadian actress and girlfriend Samantha Thomas.

"I'm in love!" gushed Page to E! news about her relationship with Thomas, a multidisciplinary artist.

A photographer at the premiere remarked that Thomas' hand seemed fused to Page's back, and that every turn they made to the cameras they made in perfect sync. The petite actress also seemed much more at ease with Thomas by her side, and posed with her for quite a while before quickly allowing the photographers to grab a few shots of her solo. METRO



Thomas and Page on the red carpet at the *Freeheld* premiere. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Bieber schooled by the pool

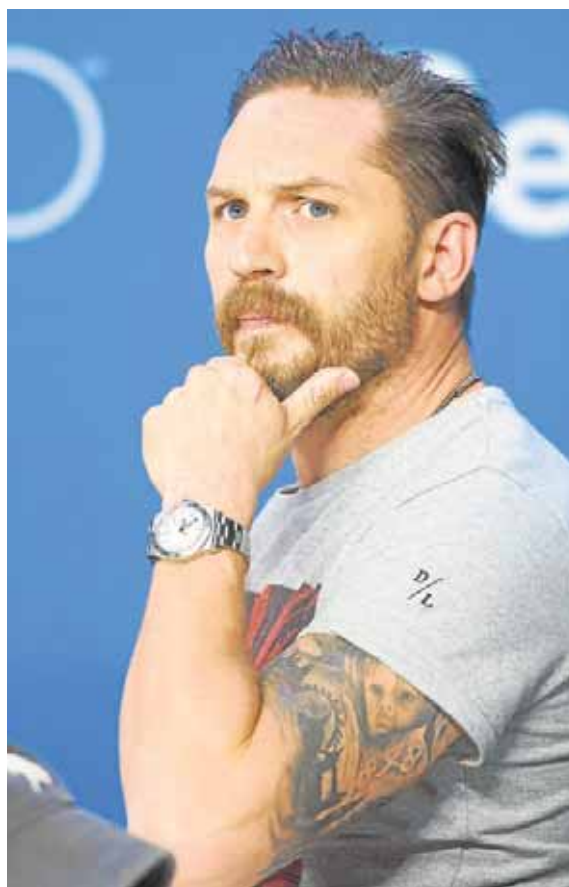
Justin Bieber, noted for always having something to prove, is facing some public embarrassment for getting schooled by pal Sam Shahidi in a beer-shotgunning contest at a pool party in Las Vegas. Just typing out that sentence means I need to get myself checked for hepatitis C.

Never one to shy away from defeat, some people's favourite Canadian posted a video of the challenge to Instagram, dismissing his failure with the caption, "I lost but I didn't go to college."

That's his excuse for everything. NED EHRRBAR/METRO



GETTY IMAGES



Tom Hardy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tom tired of gay mag retread

JUNKET

Hardy is sick of explaining a misquote from seven years ago

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | TIFF



Tom Hardy is really tired of all this talk about quotes of his in a gay magazine back in 2008 that many took as an admission that he's bisexual. Like, really, really tired.

Just look at how he reacts to a pesky reporter bringing up the topic once again at the Toronto International Film Festival press conference for his film *Legend*, in which he plays twin gangster brothers Ron and Reggie Kray — one of whom is gay.

"In the film, your character Ronnie is very open about his sexuality but given interviews

"I don't find it difficult for celebrities to talk about their sexuality. Are you asking me about my sexuality?"

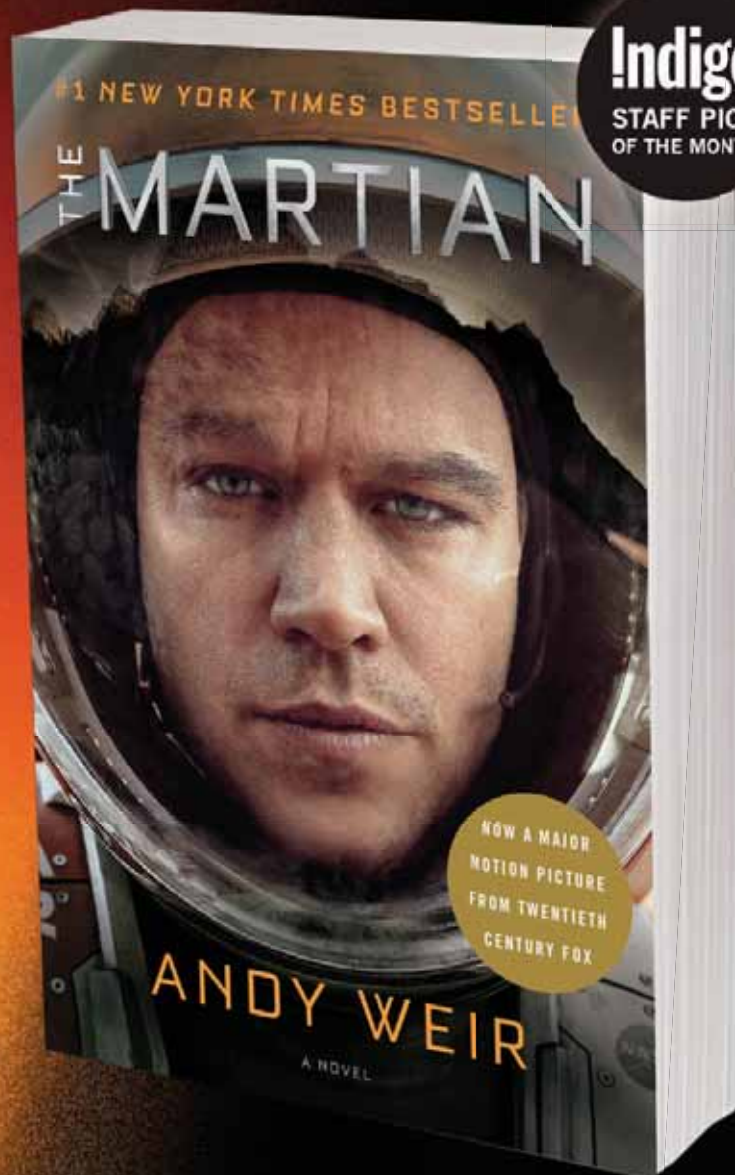
Tom Hardy

you've done in the past, your own sexuality seems a bit more ambiguous," the reporter asked.

"Do you find it hard for celebrities to talk to media about their sexuality?" What followed was a bit of a tense back and forth, starting with Hardy asking, "What are you on about?" before the journalist tried reiterating the question.

"I don't find it difficult for celebrities to talk about their sexuality. Are you asking me about my sexuality?" Hardy asked. "Why?" And then he capped it off with a curt "thank you."

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Paul Pogba and Juventus travel to Manchester City as UEFA's Champions League group stage gets underway today



Ehlers eyes big leagues after dominating juniors

NHL

Mooseheads standout feels ready to take flight with Jets

Nikolaj Ehlers has every intention of playing in the NHL this season. It's up to him to show he deserves one of the jobs available with the Winnipeg Jets.

After attending training camp with the club last season, the slick Danish winger dominated junior hockey in 2014-15, with 37 goals and 64 assists in 51 games for the Halifax Mooseheads of the QMJHL before adding a ridiculous 31 points (10 goals, 21 assists) in just 14 playoff games.

"I feel ready," the 19-year-old Ehlers said recently on his NHL hopes. "I've been working to get better the past two years and be able to get a good chance to make the team."

Selected ninth overall at the 2014 draft, Ehlers was part of the Jets' roster of prospects that took part in the Young Stars tournament that wrapped up on Monday. The four-day showcase also included rookies from the Calgary Flames, Edmonton Oilers and Vancouver Canucks.

"I worked on a lot of small details this year and this summer — getting bigger, getting faster, stronger," said Ehlers,



Forward Nikolaj Ehlers says a summer's hard work has made him ready for the big time in Winnipeg. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

who also attended last year's tournament. "I feel like I did that pretty well. That's an advantage for me. I'm going to try to use my abilities, what I do best and see."

The Jets should have some openings at forward when their

main camp opens next week after Michael Frolik inked a deal with Calgary this off-season and Jiri Tlustý and Lee Stempniak weren't re-signed.

"I see an opportunity and I'm going to do everything I can to grab that chance," said Ehlers.

"It's going to be tough, but I'm ready for it."

The CHL rookie of the year in 2014, Ehlers said he doesn't see much value in returning to junior. He's also too young to play in the AHL, but Europe could be an option if he isn't

able to earn a spot with the Jets.

"I don't have any other plans than playing in the NHL this year," said Ehlers. "It's what my focus is on and it's going to stay like that until they say otherwise. I'm excited to start this season and looking forward to it."



I don't have any other plans than playing in the NHL this year.

Nikolaj Ehlers

Another prospect looking to make an impact at training camp will be defenceman Josh Morrissey, who is in his third rookie tournament. Unlike Ehlers, the 20-year-old from Calgary is eligible to play in the AHL if he doesn't break camp with the Jets, but he said it's his job to make the decision a difficult one.

"I've never seen anyone go in there and just have a spot given to them in any capacity," said Morrissey, the 13th overall pick in 2013. "You have to put in the work and earn that position. I'm excited to go in and do that. All you want as a player is an opportunity to go in and earn a position and know that the ball's in your court."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Virtanen hopes to bring bruising style to Canucks

Micheal Ferland hit everything that moved in the Calgary Flames' first-round playoff defeat of the Vancouver Canucks last season. Jake Virtanen took notice from afar.

The sixth overall pick at the 2014 draft, Virtanen wants to bring a similar style — as well as his scoring touch — to the NHL this season with the Canucks, who could be in need of both after many Western Conference teams reloaded this summer.

The 19-year-old demonstrated some of that physicality at the Young Stars rookie tournament, levelling Edmonton Oilers phenom Connor McDavid and defenceman Darnell Nurse with crunching checks on Friday night in the showcase event that also included prospects from the Calgary Flames and Winnipeg Jets.

"I know (McDavid) pretty well," Virtanen said with a smile. "It's pretty funny. I told him I was going to give it to him when I saw him in Toronto a couple weeks ago."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadiens have a future centre in McCarron

When the Montreal Canadiens took Michael McCarron in the first round of the 2013 draft, the six-foot-five, 230-pound winger had the size the organization was looking for.

Then in his first season with the Ontario Hockey League's London Knights, coach Dale Hunter tried McCarron at centre.

"There was not that much room on the right side in my first year in the OHL and he put me at centre," McCarron recalled. "I think the first game I went 10-0 on faceoffs and he goes, 'You're not going back to wing, Big Mac.'"

The Canadiens will try Alex Galchenyuk at centre this season but in the not-too-distant future they could use another big, strong player there, especially if they let Tomas Plekanec leave in free agency next summer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TENNIS

Djokovic remains atop year-end men's rankings

Novak Djokovic's U.S. Open title allowed him to clinch the year-end No. 1 ranking for the fourth time.

The ATP announced Monday, a day after Djokovic's 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 victory over No. 2 Roger Federer in the final at Flushing Meadows, that the 28-year-old Serbian would add 2015 to 2011, 2012 and 2014 as seasons he finished atop the rankings.

"Knowing I will end the year at No. 1 keeps my mind relaxed," Djokovic said in an interview with The Associated

CANADIANS

Milos Raonic of Thornhill, Ont., rose one spot to No. 9 while Vasek Pospisil of Vancouver fell one position to No. 46. Eugenie Bouchard of Westmount, Que., fell one spot to No. 26 in the women's rankings.

Press. "I have achieved a lot so far in the season, and I hope I can deliver the same game for the rest of the year."

He is 63-5 with seven titles, including three at Grand Slam tournaments, and has reached the final at each of his past 11 events. Djokovic beat Andy Murray in the Australian Open final, lost to Stan Wawrinka in the French Open final, then beat Federer in the finals at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

Djokovic is currently in his third stay at No. 1, for a total of 164 weeks, the sixth most in the history of the computer rankings that began in 1973. Federer holds the record of 302.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Novak Djokovic has been No. 1 for a total of 164 weeks.

KENA BETANCUR/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

RECIPE Moroccan Couscous with Apricots, Dried Cranberries and Almonds



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

@rosereisman

Ready in

Prep time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 7 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 cup couscous
- 1 cup water or stock
- 2 tsp oil
- 1 cup diced onion
- 1 cup diced red pepper
- 1 1/2 tsp minced garlic
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp cumin
- 1/4 tsp ground ginger
- 1 cup canned chick peas, drained and rinsed
- 1/3 cup dried apricots, diced
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries or raisins
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 3 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp grated lemon zest
- Salt and pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro

- 1/3 cup toasted slivered almonds

Directions

1. Bring water or stock to a boil. Add couscous, mix, remove from heat and keep covered for five minutes. Add to serving bowl.

2. Meanwhile, in a small skillet, heat 2 tsp oil. Add onion and sauté for five minutes. Add red pepper, garlic, cinnamon, cumin and ginger and sauté for two minutes. Add to couscous along with chick peas, apricots, cranberries, olive oil, lemon juice and zest, salt and pepper and cilantro. Garnish with almonds.

Nutrition per serving (recipe serves 6)

- Calories 260
- Protein 7 g
- Carbohydrates 40 g
- Fibre 7 g
- Total fat 10 g
- Saturated fat 1 g
- Cholesterol 0 mg
- Sodium 50 mg

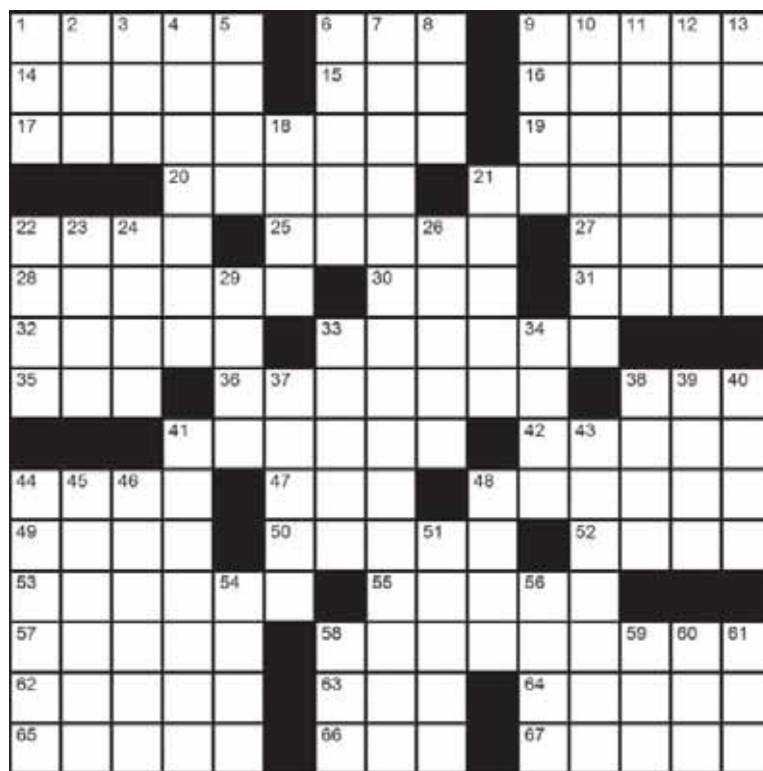
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

- Vaulted church recesses
- Ms. Gardner
- Irene who Sherlock Holmes admired
- Georges Bizet's operatic priestess
- Zilch
- Family member
- Counterparts/analogues
- Land stretch
- Motionless
- Not married
- Help the criminal
- Bounded
- Union payments
- Actor, Joseph Gordon-__
- Long-snouted fish
- For fear that
- __ pad (Office item)
- Entrapments
- Canoe implement
- Clever retort
- "Chandelier" singer
- Ready information for Internet display
- Dithers
- Saint-Louis-du-__! (Quebec municipality)
- Patch up
- Money, informally
- Urgent situation [abbr.]
- Top rate
- Meddlesome [var. sp.]
- Miami baseball player
- Condemns



- Michael Keaton's stay-at-home-dad comedy: 2 wds.
- Wild carnivorous hybrid canids that are highly adaptable and are known to secretly dwell in cities and suburbs as well as the country

- Put into law
- Wonderment
- Skincare brand
- "Fire Music": Current album by Canadian hard rock band __ Jones
- '60s hallucinogen
- Shapewear

brand

DOWN

- Mount
- The Princess and the __
- Lady's love
- Springy stuff in skin
- Pretzel particle

- Anoint, olde-style
- What the NWT community of Deline became known as after men from there (who worked as porters for the uranium mine at Port Radium during WWII) died from cancer: 3 wds.

- Mr. Gore's
- Opposing
- Full skirt styles
- 'L' of MLB
- The Hollies' "Jennifer" __
- Check once more
- Cheerful tune
- Prance
- Additionally
- __Carotene
- By any chance
- "Crazy" singer Ms. Cline
- Ruptured
- Sales pitch
- Currency in Chile
- Norwegian playwright Henrik
- Fodder structure
- "Count __ a blessing"
- Greyish
- Malefic magic man, maybe
- __ shower mat
- Shortened, as pants
- Egypt: Ancient cuneiform excavation site near the Nile River
- Lily Munster's hubby
- Cat call
- Considered
- "For __ be Queen o' the May, mother..." - Tennyson
- Criminal associations
- Li'l dietary number
- U.S. gov. radio service
- 'East' suffix
- "__ and the City"

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries March 21 - April 20

You may be convinced that a course of action is correct but the strength of someone's opposition will make you second guess it. Maybe you should give it a bit more thought.

♉ Taurus April 21 - May 21

An opportunity to improve a partnership or relationship could be missed. Focus on it to the exclusion of everything else. Career issues and money matters may seem important but in the greater scheme of things they don't count for much.

♊ Gemini May 22 - June 21

If you have a favour to ask, now is the time. Everyone wants to help you today. You would be foolish not to take advantage of it.

♋ Cancer June 22 - July 23

If what you previously thought was a brilliant idea has come to nothing, abandon it. You may be tempted to give it another go but is it worth it? Probably not.

♌ Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

A light-hearted approach is called for today, especially if you tend to get uptight about things over which you have no control. Whether you laugh or cry the outcome will be the same.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You will find it almost impossible to get started today. For a workaholic like you this may be worrying but remember, it's not the quantity of work you get done that matters but the quality. Do just one thing really well.

♎ Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Something you thought was a permanent part of your world will disappear today but there is no need to feel sad. By creating space in your life you will encourage something even better to come in and fill it.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You may be unaware that someone is annoyed with you but you're about to find out. If a loved one or work colleague gives you a hard time today — was it something you said or did?

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Try not to be so self-critical. If something has not worked out the way you expected it to, well, that's just the way it is. You may have failed but it's all good experience.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Jupiter in the wealth area of your chart puts you in a strong position where finances are concerned. If a deal has to be made you should be the one calling the shots — and making the most profit.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

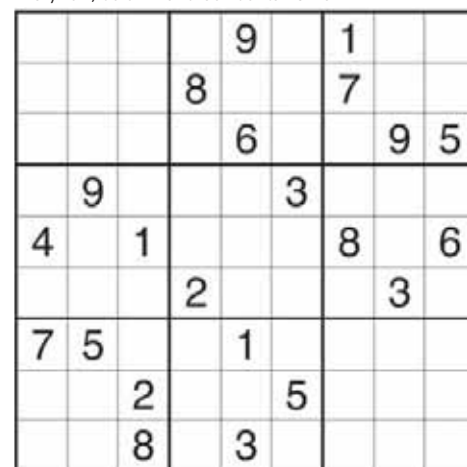
A disappointment may be hard to take but the pain will fade eventually. There are still plenty of things that inspire you, so pick one and throw yourself at it body, mind and soul.

♓ Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

There are so many serious things going on around you that others are unlikely to be in the mood for fun and games. That's okay, you can entertain yourself well enough.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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SORENTO, SOUL



SOUL

2015 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK

SORENTO, OPTIMA, SEDONA, SOUL

Clef d'or "Best in Class"
L'ANNUÉ DE
L'AUTOMOBILE 2015
RIO, FORTE, RONDO



5-Star Safety Ratings

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OPTIMA, SPORTAGE AWD, SOUL, FORTE,
SEDONA, SORENTO



SORENTO

2015
SOUL 1.6L LX MT Soul SX Luxury shown[†]
THAT'S LIKE PAYING ONLY LEASE FROM **\$143[°]** MONTHLY
\$33[°] WEEKLY **\$0** DOWN AT **0% APR** FOR 60 MONTHS*



2015
FORTE Forte SX AT shown[†]
UP TO
0% FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS* **+ \$4,000[°]**
IN CASH DISCOUNTS

2016
SORENTO 2.4L LX FWD Sorento SX Turbo AWD shown[†]
THAT'S LIKE PAYING ONLY LEASE FROM **\$267[°]** MONTHLY
\$62[°] WEEKLY **\$1,800** DOWN AT **1.9% APR** FOR 60 MONTHS*



2015
OPTIMA LX AT Optima SX Turbo shown[†]
WELL-EQUIPPED FROM **\$19,795*** INCLUDES **\$5,000***
IN CASH DISCOUNTS

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★ ★ ★ 2015 MODELS ★ ★ ★



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